

United States Department of State

Under Secretary of State
for Global Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20520-7250

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July 29, 1994

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TO: The Secretary
FROM: G - Timothy E. Wirth
SUBJECT: July 25 - 29, 1994REDIST:
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As you know from my note on Thursday, I have organized a State/AID/OFDA group to coordinate Department positions in response to the disaster in Rwanda. We will meet prior to the interagency working group sessions chaired by Tony Lake and focus principally on issues/decisions to raise at the NSC. On Sunday, Phyllis Oakley and George Moose will accompany DOD Secretary Perry to Goma; I will stay here to push the decision making process and take part in Hill briefings to ensure we have understanding and support from that quarter. Once the process in Kigali is up and running I may visit Kigali myself.

Phyllis Oakley will travel back from Goma via Geneva where she will attend a meeting of heads of U.N. agencies involved in Rwanda and representatives of donor countries.

I met this week with Colombia's minister-designate for foreign affairs Ricardo Pardo. I underlined the importance of continuing a strong counter narcotics effort as an essential part of progress on a broad agenda of mutual interests. Pardo assured me that president-elect Samper wants a constructive relationship with the U.S. and noted Samper intends to sponsor improvements in Colombia's now weak judicial infrastructure which inhibit counter-narcotics efforts. He seemed sincere; we will watch closely for results.

Summit of the Americas preparations are well underway. The democracy and effective government theme in particular is making good progress and will build on ten years of counter-narcotics work in the region. Bob Gelbard and I see no reason to focus on starter, piecemeal or scene-setter concepts: we want to advance several fundamental issues, and the Hemisphere's governments will be supportive.

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REVIEW AUTHORITY: WILLIAM E LANDFAIR
DATE/CASE ID: 01 JUL 2004 200301102

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We are also making arrangements to send Phil Wilcox to Latin America as you announced we would do in your HFAC testimony on Thursday. We will add a "terrorism in this Hemisphere" theme to the Summit agenda.

We vigorously protested Canada's seizure of two U.S. vessels dredging for scallops off the Grand Banks of Newfoundland on Tuesday. Within hours of the seizure I had an opportunity to tell Environment Minister Sheila Copps that seizing the vessels would not advance the conservation of stocks, that differences over definitions of species could and should be negotiated. The Canadians are taking pains to emphasize that their action is permitted under the Law of the Sea Treaty and the issue is thus not one of "custodial jurisdiction." The available scientific literature, however, does not support their contention that Icelandic scallops are sedentary; the species can and does move independently during its harvestable stage making Canada's action illegal under the LOS Treaty. Following my discussion with Copps, I did a fairly lengthy live interview on CBC making the same points; This was rerun in Canada throughout the day according to Jim Blanchard. On Thursday evening the crews of the two vessels were released and they flew home immediately. We have worked closely with Barney Frank and Gerry Studds, and Senators Kerry and Kennedy, on this as they have expressed much interest.

John Shattuck testified this week before the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Trade on the Pelosi Bill which would deny MFN status to exports produced by the Chinese military and state-owned enterprises. John explained that we oppose the Bill, summarizing the forward-looking elements of our China policy (voluntary business principles for promoting human rights, support for law reform and civil society, increased VOA broadcasting and a broader bilateral dialogue on the lines of the common agenda we have with Japan) and described the current human rights climate in China as chilly. Several members urged us to keep the spotlight focussed on China's human rights practices. The Pelosi Bill is expected to come to the House floor next week.

Next week I will brief (at his request) Chinese charge d'affaires Yang Jie Chi on our common agenda concept. EAP's Peter Thomsen will join me. We will review how the process has worked with Japan and Russia, explaining that by bundling issues we can lower the political visibility of the more controversial points and by setting agreed goals and milestones by which to judge progress we can work systematically to advance an agreed agenda.

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